

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 152-75
30 SEPTEMBER 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP85T00608R000300010054-0

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BRIEF

#152 75

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 152-75.4

.. ROMANIANS FETED IN PEKING--AGAIN: THE VISIT OF MAJOR GENERAL GOMOIU, ROMANIAN DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER AND HEAD OF THE MILITARY'S HIGHER POLITICAL COUNCIL, TO PEKING IS SURE TO IRRITATE MOSCOW.4

AT A RECEPTION IN GOMOIU'S HONOR ON SUNDAY, THE CHINESE TOASTED THE "PROFOUND AND REVOLUTIONARY FRIENDSHIP" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THEIR COMMON "STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND HEGEMONISM"--THE LAST A CODEWORD FOR SOVIET EFFORTS TO DOMINATE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. GOMOIU RESPONDED BY UNDERSCORING THE "FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS OF THE TWO PEOPLES." HE LAUDED THE ARMY'S ROLE IN DEFENDING THE CHINESE REVOLUTION AND IN SAFEGUARDING THE NATION'S INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY. THE ROMANIAN CHARACTERIZED HIS TALKS AS A NEW CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.4

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FOUR YEARS AGO, SIMILAR TOASTS DURING CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO PEKING TOUCHED OFF SEVERAL MONTHS OF SOVIET PRESSURE ON THE BALKANS, INCLUDING A WELL-ORCHESTRATED CAMPAIGN AGAINST AN ALLEGED "PRO-PEKING, ANTI-SOVIET, TIRANA, BUCHAREST AND BELGRADE AXIS."⁴

GOMOIU IS THE LATEST OF A NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL ROMANIANS WHO HAVE TRAVELED TO PEKING THIS MONTH. ILIE VERDET, THE PARTY SECRETARY FOR CADRE AFFAIRS WAS THERE FROM SEPTEMBER 5 TO 9. JOSEF BANC, THE PARTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IS CURRENTLY IN CHINA, ALONG WITH MAJOR GENERAL DUMITRU, THE HEAD OF ROMANIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET-H

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 152-75-4

I. CUBA: FIDEL CASTRO STRONGLY ENDORSED THE CAUSE OF INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO ON SUNDAY. HE THUS LENT HIS PERSONAL PRESTIGE TO AN ISSUE THAT HAS BECOME A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE PATH OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH THE US. HIS REMARKS APPARENTLY WERE INTENDED AS A RESPONSE TO WHAT HE LABELED "STRONG STATEMENTS" BY US OFFICIALS.

IN A LONG SPEECH OTHERWISE DEVOTED TO INTERNAL CUBAN AFFAIRS, CASTRO SPOKE BRIEFLY ABOUT PUERTO RICO AND THE US. HE IMPLIED THAT CUBAN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CAUSE OF PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE IS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE AND THAT IT WILL NOT BE RENOUNCED IN ORDER TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE US. HE ADDED, "IF THAT IS NOT UNDERSTOOD, WE WILL KNOW HOW TO BE AS PATIENT AS NECESSARY."

CONTRARY TO SOME PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE SPEECH, CASTRO DID NOT DEPART FROM THE NOW-STANDARD CUBAN POSITION REGARDING PUERTO RICO. NOTHING HE SAID INDICATED A RETREAT FROM HIS STATED WILLINGNESS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US TO SETTLE BILATERAL DIFFERENCES.

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PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE, WHILE A GENUINE CUBAN GOAL, IS
ALSO BEING USED BY HAVANA TO BOLSTER ITS REVOLUTIONARY CREDENTIALS
IN THE THIRD WORLD. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2IMPDET-H

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 152-75.4

1. PORTUGAL: PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO IS RUNNING INTO TROUBLE IN HIS ATTEMPT TO TAKE OVER THE LEFTIST-CONTROLLED RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS.⁴

ALL STATIONS HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED BY SECURITY TROOPS, BUT THE STATIONS ARE IGNORING AZEVEDO'S ORDERS THAT HIS COMMUNIQUE BE READ EVERY 15 MINUTES AND THAT ALL NEWS NOT RECEIVED FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES BE SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT CENSORSHIP. IN AT LEAST ONE STATION, THE SECURITY FORCES HAVE SIDED WITH THE WORKERS, WHO APPEAR TO BE IN CONTROL.⁴

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OCCUPIED STATIONS MET WITH SECURITY CHIEF CARVALHO AND INFORMATION MINISTER ALMEIDA SANTOS LAST NIGHT TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION, BUT NO CONCLUSIONS WERE REACHED. A CROWD OF ABOUT 3,000 OUTSIDE THE INFORMATION MINISTRY DEMANDED THAT CARVALHO ORDER HIS TROOPS OUT OF THE STATIONS. WHEN HE REFUSED, THEY THREATENED TO TAKE THE STATIONS BACK BY FORCE. //THE UNPREDICTABLE CARVALHO APPARENTLY SIDES WITH AZEVEDO ON THIS ISSUE BUT COULD GIVE IN TO EXTREMIST PRESSURE.//⁴

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AZEVEDO'S MOVE ON THE MEDIA IS THE TOUGHEST ACTION HIS NEW GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE PROMISE TO RESTORE "DEMOCRATIC PLURALISM" TO THE MEDIA AND DISCIPLINE TO THE MILITARY. AZEVEDO ISSUED THE ORDER AS ACTING PRESIDENT WHILE COSTA GOMES, WELL KNOWN FOR TEMPORIZING AND COMPROMISING, IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY, VISITING POLAND AND THE USSR. FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES HAS POSTPONED HIS PLANS TO JOIN COSTA GOMES BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT SITUATION.⁴

IF AZEVEDO IS FORCED TO BACK DOWN ON THE MEDIA ISSUE, IT WOULD BE A SERIOUS BLOW TO THE CREDIBILITY AND LONG-TERM PROSPECTS OF HIS GOVERNMENT.⁴

IN A SPEECH LAST NIGHT, AZEVEDO APPEALED FOR NATIONAL UNITY AND SUPPORT OF HIS ACTION. HE SAID THE OCCUPATION OF THE RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS IS INTENDED TO END THE MEDIA'S ENCOURAGEMENT OF CIVIL DISRUPTIONS AND THE EXPLOITATION OF INDISCIPLINE IN THE ARMED FORCES. DEMONSTRATIONS HAD BEEN INCREASING IN RECENT DAYS, WITH RADICAL SOLDIERS, VETERANS, AND LEFT-WING CIVILIANS PROTESTING AZEVEDO'S NEW GOVERNMENT AND SPAIN'S

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AZEVEDO'S DECISION WAS TRIGGERED BY AN ATTEMPT BY DISABLED VETERANS OVER THE WEEKEND TO DETAIN MEMBERS OF THE CABINET. HE ORDERED COMMANDOS TO BREAK UP THE CROWD AND WAS HEAVILY CRITICIZED BY THE MEDIA. AZEVEDO ALSO DISAPPROVED OF THE MEDIA'S CALL FOR ACTIVISTS TO SACK THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN LISBON ON SATURDAY.⁴

THE PRIME MINISTER ASSURED THE NATION THAT THE OCCUPATION MEASURE IS TEMPORARY AND IS DESIGNED TO AVOID DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY THAT WOULD RESTRICT CIVIL LIBERTIES. (CONFIDENTIAL)⁴

2. ROMANIANS FETED IN PEKING--AGAIN: THE VISIT OF MAJOR GENERAL GOMOIU, ROMANIAN DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER AND HEAD OF THE MILITARY'S HIGHER POLITICAL COUNCIL, TO PEKING IS SURE TO IRRITATE MOSCOW.⁴

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TO DOMINATE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. GOMOIU RESPONDED BY UNDERSCORING THE "FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS OF THE TWO PEOPLES." HE LAUDED THE ARMY'S ROLE IN DEFENDING THE CHINESE REVOLUTION AND IN SAFEGUARDING THE NATION'S INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY. THE ROMANIAN CHARACTERIZED HIS TALKS AS A NEW CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.⁴

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IN CHINA, ALONG WITH MAJOR GENERAL DUMITRU, THE

HEAD OF ROMANIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 152-75.4

LEBANON: THE LEBANESE NATIONAL CONCILIATION COMMITTEE MET FOR THE SECOND TIME YESTERDAY. IT APPARENTLY MADE SOME PROGRESS ON IMMEDIATE ISSUES AFFECTING THE CEASE-FIRE, BUT THERE WAS NO SIGN OF COMPROMISE ON BASIC ISSUES. PRIME MINISTER KARAMI ANNOUNCED THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREED ON STEPS TO REMOVE STREET BARRICADES, TO SILENCE SNIPERS, TO CLOSE CLANDESTINE RADIO STATIONS, AND TO PREVENT FURTHER KIDNAPINGS.4

THE COMMITTEE DID SOLICIT THE VIEWS OF THE COMPETING GROUPS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE CAUSES OF THE VIOLENCE THAT HAS RACKED THE COUNTRY. NEITHER THE CHRISTIAN PHALANGISTS NOR THEIR LEFTIST MUSLIM OPPONENTS APPARENTLY SHOWED ANY GIVE IN THEIR POSITIONS. THE DISCUSSIONS ARE LIKELY TO BE COMPLICATED BY PHALANGIST LEADER PIERRE JUMAYYIL'S INSISTENCE ON DISCUSSING THE SENSITIVE QUESTION OF THE PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON, A MATTER THAT MOST OTHER PARTICIPANTS WOULD PREFER TO AVOID.4

THE MAKE-UP OF THE COMMITTEE ITSELF ENSURES THAT THE TALKS WILL BE DIFFICULT. LEADERS OF THE CONSERVATIVE WING OF THE SHIA

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MUSLIMS ARE SAID TO BE ANGRY OVER NOT BEING ADEQUATELY REPRESENTED. PARLIAMENT SPEAKER KAMAL AL-ASAD, A MEMBER OF THIS GROUP, HAS BOYCOTTED THE MEETING.⁴

KARAMI REPORTEDLY IS TRYING TO EXPAND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE TO MEET THE OBJECTIONS OF THE SHIAS, AS WELL AS OF THE CHRISTIANS EAST OF BEIRUT WHO HAVE SIMILAR COMPLAINTS. THE LEFTIST FOLLOWERS OF KAMAL JUMBLATT OPPOSE ANY SUCH CHANGE IN THE COMMITTEE.⁴

THE SECURITY SITUATION IN BEIRUT IMPROVED AGAIN YESTERDAY AS SHOPS AND STORES BEGAN TO REOPEN. MOST BANKS WERE CLOSED, BUT WERE EXPECTED TO REOPEN TODAY.⁴

THE ARMY HAS TAKEN OVER THE JOB OF KEEPING ORDER IN THE COMMERCIAL AREAS OF BEIRUT, LEAVING OTHER AREAS TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES AND TO THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. THE PLO HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY IN THE WESTERN PART OF BEIRUT. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.⁴

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